

## CHAPTER 2.1.14.

### AVIAN INFLUENZA

#### Article 2.1.14.1.

For the purposes of this *Code*, avian influenza (AI) is defined as 'an infection of poultry caused either by any influenza A virus which has an IVPI in 6-week old chickens greater than 1.2 or by an influenza A virus of H5 or H7 subtype'.

For the purposes of this *Terrestrial Code*, notifiable avian influenza (NAI) is defined as an infection of poultry caused by any influenza A virus of the H5 or H7 subtypes or by any AI virus with an intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) greater than 1.2 (or as an alternative at least 75% mortality) as described below. NAI viruses can be divided into highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza (HPNAI) and low pathogenicity notifiable avian influenza (LPNAI):

- 1) HPNAI viruses have an IVPI in 6-week-old chickens greater than 1.2 or, as an alternative, cause at least 75% mortality in 8 4-to 8-week-old chickens infected intravenously. H5 and H7 viruses which do not have an IVPI of greater than 1.2 or cause less than 75% mortality in an intravenous lethality test should be sequenced to determine whether multiple basic amino acids are present at the cleavage site of the haemagglutinin molecule (HA0); if the amino acid motif is similar to that observed for other HPNAI isolates, the isolate being tested should be considered as HPNAI.
- 2) LPNAI are all influenza A viruses of H5 and H7 subtype that are not HPNAI viruses.

Poultry is defined as 'all birds reared or kept in captivity for the production of meat or eggs for consumption, for the production of other commercial products, for restocking supplies of game, or for breeding these categories of birds'.

For the purpose of *international trade*, this chapter deals not only with the occurrence of clinical signs caused by NAI virus, but also with the presence of infection with NAI virus in the absence of clinical signs. Articles dealing with trade in commodities recommend different sanitary measures, depending on the presence or absence of clinical signs.

The following defines the occurrence of AI virus infection:

- 1) AI virus has been isolated and identified as such from poultry or a product derived from poultry, or
- 2) viral antigen or viral RNA specific to H5 or H7 subtype of AI virus has been identified in samples from poultry or a product derived from poultry, or
- 3) antibodies to H5 or H7 subtype of AI virus that are not a consequence of vaccination have been detected in poultry.

The following defines the occurrence of NAI virus infection:

- 1) HPNAI virus has been isolated and identified as such or specific viral RNA has been detected and can be sequenced as HPNAI in poultry or a product derived from poultry, or
- 2) LPNAI virus has been isolated and identified as such or specific viral RNA has been detected

**and can be sequenced as LPNAI** in poultry or a product derived from poultry, or

**Rationale:**

1) Methodologies available today can detect viral genome segments whose nucleotide sequences cannot be adequately interpreted; thus the reporting of a detection based on RNA fragments should be sequenceable as either HPNAI or LPNAI.

2) All evidence points to the fact that (a) poultry products are not a vehicle for transmitting LPAI (there has never been a documented case of LPAI transmission via poultry products) and (b) experimental evidence does not support the hypothesis that LPAI is carried in poultry products.

3) antibodies to H5 or H7 subtype of NAI virus that are not a consequence of vaccination, nor indicative of a non-specific reaction, have been detected in poultry; in such cases, virus isolation should be attempted to establish whether the serological positivity is due to LPNAI or HPNAI. If appropriate samples are not available or if results are negative, a thorough epidemiological investigation including further sampling and testing should be carried out to identify the type or exclude the presence of NAI infection.

For the purposes of this *Terrestrial Code*, 'NAI-free establishment' means an establishment in which there has been no clinical sign of NAI for the past 21 days, and which is not situated within 3 km of an establishment infected with HPNAI and within one km of an establishment infected with LPNAI.

For the purposes of this *Terrestrial Code*, the incubation period for NAI shall be **28 21** days.

Standards for diagnostic tests are described in the *Manual*.

Any vaccine used should comply with the standards described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 2.1.14.1bis.

The NAI status of a country or compartment can be determined on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1) the outcome of a risk assessment identifying all potential factors for NAI occurrence and their historic perspective;
- 2) NAI is notifiable in the whole country, an on-going NAI awareness programme is in place, and all notified suspect occurrences of NAI are subjected to field and, where applicable, laboratory investigations;
- 3) appropriate surveillance is in place to demonstrate the ~~presence of infection~~ **absence of circulating virus** in the absence of clinical signs in poultry, and the risk posed by birds other than poultry; this may be achieved through an NAI surveillance programme in accordance with this chapter and Chapter 1.3.6.

**Rationale: We believe that surveillance should be in place to show the *absence* rather than the presence of infection, and that the absence is demonstrated by the lack of circulating virus and not infection.**

### NAI free country or zone/compartment

A country or zone/compartment may be considered free from NAI when it has been shown that NAI infection has not been present for the past 12 months. If a stamping out policy is applied infected poultry are slaughtered or depopulated, this period shall be 6 3 months after the slaughter or depopulation of the last infected poultry and disinfection of all affected establishments.

**Rationale: the word “slaughter” alone implies (in many countries) that the poultry are processed and the protein biomass salvaged for human consumption or other use. Adding the word “depopulation” also allows for the option of other means of carcass disposal.**

The NAI status should be determined by an ongoing surveillance and monitoring programme (carried out in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.6.) based on virus isolation, virus detection or serology. The programme may need to be adapted to target parts of the country or zone/compartment at a higher risk due to historical or geographical factors, population data, or proximity to recent outbreaks.

Freedom of infection from virus circulation in a country or zone can be demonstrated with random and/or targeted serological surveillance at a minimum interval of 6 months designed to provide at least a 95% level of confidence of detecting a prevalence of NAI infected **enterprises** of 1%. Freedom of infection in an enterprise compartment can be demonstrated with an ongoing surveillance programme designed to provide at least a 95% level of confidence of detecting a prevalence of NAI infection of 10%. Each *establishment* should be sampled to provide a 95% level of confidence of detecting a prevalence of NAI of 20 25%. For commercial ducks the surveillance programme should be based on virus isolation or detection in the absence of validated serological methods.

**Rationale: to be consistent with the recent changes made to the Code Chapter on foot-and-mouth disease, it is the *absence* of virus circulation which needs to be demonstrated. Surveillance should not be limited to serology -- virus detection methodologies should also be an optional tool.**

**General comment: Because the surveillance that is described appears to be designed to occur at three stages, it is difficult for the reader to figure out what is meant or recommended at each stage. Further adding to this confusion is the fact that the word “enterprise” is replaced by “compartment” (the previous definition of enterprise in the Code has been eliminated and not replaced), and so the reader is forced to go to Chapter 1.1.1 to find the definition of compartment. Should the word “enterprise” (identified in bold in the above text) be also replaced by “compartment”? In summary, there is a need for consistency and clarity in the sampling units at each stage.**

**To clarify the surveillance recommendations, it may be helpful to provide a table showing the level of sampling required within a country/zone, compartment, and establishment. The**

following table would help to clarify the suggested sampling (based on our understanding of the previous paragraph):

<i>Country or zone freedom</i>			
<i>Units</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Prev.</i>	<i>No. Samples</i>
<i>Enterprises (Compartments?)</i>	95%	1%	298
<i>Establishments</i>	95%	10%	29
<i>Birds</i>	95%	25%	11
<b>Total number of samples</b>			<b>95,062 (every 6 months)</b>

In the case of a country or zone in which vaccination is being conducted, the ongoing surveillance and monitoring programme (carried out in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.6.) based on virus isolation, virus detection or serology should be carried out on all vaccinated flocks at a minimum interval of 6 months. In each vaccinated flock, the number of birds to be tested should provide at least a 95% level of confidence of detecting a prevalence of NAI infection of 20-25%. In the case of a compartment enterprise in which vaccination is being conducted, the ongoing surveillance and monitoring programme (carried out in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.6.) based on virus isolation, virus detection or serology should be carried out to provide at least a 95% level of confidence of detecting a prevalence of NAI infection of 10%. If a serological test is used, it should be able to distinguish vaccinated birds from infected birds. Additional security should be provided by the use of relevant serological tests in identifiable sentinel birds which can be clinically inspected or tested to help identify field infections in vaccinated flocks.

**General comment: As previously mentioned, and in this case where vaccination is practiced, we would also like some clarity provided regarding the level of testing necessary to show the lack of virus circulation, particularly at the compartment level. Furthermore, is there a contradiction in requiring that all vaccinated flocks be tested; however, if they belong to a compartment, then just a fraction of the vaccinated flocks should be tested? Was this intended or not? Again, there is a need to clarify the sampling units at each level (see table below)**

<i>Country or zone freedom with vaccination</i>			
<i>Units</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Prev.</i>	<i>No. Samples</i>
<i>Enterprise (compartments)</i>			All?

<i>Establishments (Flocks?)</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Birds per flock</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>11</i>

Article 2.1.14.3.

When importing from an NAI free country or zone/compartment, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for live poultry (other than day-old poultry)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the poultry:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of NAI on the day of shipment;
- 2) were kept in an NAI free country or zone/compartment since they were hatched or for the past 28 21 days- 3 months;

**Rationale: it makes little sense that if a poultry commodity originates from a NAI free country/zone or compartment to also allow the option for that commodity to have been in a NAI free country/zone or compartment for only the past 21 days. If one allows the option that the commodity be in a country/zone or compartment for 21 days, then there would be little incentive for a country to eradicate, control or even monitor for Avian Influenza. If a commodity is coming from truly a NAI free country/zone or compartment, then that free country/zone or compartment must have been free of NAI for 6 months or at least 3 months if the country/zone or compartment had been previously free of NAI and then was subsequently re-eradicated.**

- 3) either have not been vaccinated against NAI, or have been vaccinated and the date of vaccination and the details of the vaccine are stated.

[Note: If the poultry were vaccinated against NAI, the nature of the vaccine used and the date of vaccination should be stated in the certificate.]

Article 2.1.14.4.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for the importation of live birds other than poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the birds:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of NAI on the day of shipment;
- 2) were kept in isolation approved by the Veterinary Services ~~a quarantine station~~ since they were hatched or for the 28 21 days prior to shipment and showed no clinical sign of NAI during the isolation ~~quarantine~~ period;
- 3) were subjected to a diagnostic test 7 to 14 days prior to shipment to demonstrate freedom from NAI.

**General comment: There is a need to address the import measures applied to “pet birds” owned by private individuals. Many people travel with or are transferred from**

**one country to another and take their pet birds with them. Most of these birds are low risk animals for avian influenza, and are, for all practical purposes, isolated from the general commercial poultry population of a country. Specific and flexible requirements need to be proposed to accommodate this group of birds owned by private individuals.**

Article 2.1.14.5.

When importing from an NAI free country or zone/compartment, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for day-old live poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the poultry:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of NAI on the day of shipment;
- 2) were kept in an NAI free country or zone/compartment since they were hatched;
- 3) were derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an NAI free country or zone/compartment for 21 days 3 months prior to the collection of the eggs;

**Rationale: it makes little sense that if a poultry commodity originates from a NAI free country/zone or compartment to also allow the option for that commodity to have been in a NAI free country/zone or compartment for only the past 21 days. If one allows the option that the commodity be in a country/zone or compartment for 21 days, then there would be little incentive for a country to eradicate, control or even monitor for Avian Influenza. If a commodity is coming from truly a NAI free country/zone or compartment, then that free country/zone or compartment must have been free of NAI for 6 months or at least 3 months if the country/zone or compartment had been previously free of NAI and then was subsequently re-eradicated.**

- 4) **were derived from parent flocks which showed no clinical signs of NAI during the 21 days prior to the export of the day-old live poultry.**

**Rationale: We recommend adding statement 4) because the “parent” flock is a better indicator of the health status of the chicks or poults to be exported than the actual chicks or poults at the time of export.**

- 5) and/or the parent flock had/had not been vaccinated and, if vaccinated, the date of vaccination and the details of the vaccine are stated.

**Note: If the day-old poultry or the parents of the poultry were vaccinated against NAI, the details of the vaccine and the date of vaccination should be provided.**

Article 2.1.14.5bis.

When importing from an NAI free country or zone/compartiment, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for ~~hatching eggs~~

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the eggs:

- 1) came from an NAI free country or zone/compartiment;
- 2) were derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an NAI free country or zone/compartiment for 21 days prior the collection of the eggs;

**Rationale: it makes little sense that if a poultry commodity originates from a NAI free country/zone or compartment to also allow the option for that commodity to have been in a NAI free country/zone or compartment for only the past 21 days. If one allows the option that the commodity be in a country/zone or compartment for 21 days, then there would be little incentive for a country to eradicate, control or even monitor for Avian Influenza. If a commodity is coming from truly a NAI free country/zone or compartment, then that free country/zone or compartment must have been free of NAI for 6 months or at least 3 months if the country/zone or compartment had been previously free of NAI and then was subsequently re-eradicated.**

**3) were derived from parent flocks which showed no clinical signs of NAI during the 21 days prior to the export of the hatching eggs.**

**Rationale: We recommend adding statement 3) because the “parent” flock is a better indicator of the health status of the hatching eggs to be exported than the actual hatching eggs at the time of export.**

4) were derived from parent flocks which had not been vaccinated against NAI, or which had been vaccinated against NAI and the date of vaccination and the details of the vaccine are stated

Article 2.1.14.6.

When importing from an NAI free country or zone/compartment, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for ~~hatching eggs~~ or eggs for consumption

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the eggs come from an NAI free

country or zone/compartment.

Article 2.1.14.6bis.

When importing from a country or zone/compartment free from HPNAI infection **(but not free from LPNAI)**, Veterinary Administrations should require:

**Rationale: adding the words “but not free from LPNAI” provides clarification to this Article**

for eggs for consumption

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the eggs:

1) come from a country or zone/compartment free from HPNAI infection, and

2) the eggs have been appropriately sanitized, and

**Rationale: appropriate sanitation of table eggs is a proven method to reduce the spread of diseases and should be indicated in this Article**

3) are transported in new disposable packing material.

Article 2.1.14.6ter.

When importing from a country or zone/compartment not known to be free from HPNAI, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for eggs for consumption

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of eggs comes from birds:

1) which have been kept in an NAI free *establishment*;

3) which have been tested serologically or by virus detection to give a 95% probability of detecting a 5% prevalence of NAI infection, 21 days with negative results.

**Rationale: Eggs for human consumption originating from a HPNAI affected country/zone or compartment should not be traded even if coming from a free establishment. It has been well demonstrated that HPNAI virus can be found within the egg, and furthermore, in a large layer flock, during early infection, there is potential of not detecting the virus if either those affected birds are not sampled, or the eggs of such infected birds are exported prior to viral detection and disease expression.**

Article 2.1.14.7.

~~When importing from an NAI free country or compartment, Veterinary Administrations should require:~~

~~for egg products~~

~~the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the egg products come from, and were processed in, an NAI free country or zone/compartment.~~

Article 2.1.14.7bis.

When importing from a country or zone/compartment free from HPNAI infection (but not free from LPNAI) Veterinary Administrations should require:

for egg products

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the egg products come from, and were processed in a country or zone/compartment free from HPNAI infection.

Article 2.1.14.7ter.

When importing from a country or zone/compartment not known to be free from HPNAI, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for egg products

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the egg products:

- 1) are derived from eggs for consumption which meet the requirements of Articles 2.1.14.6., 2.1.14.6bis. or 2.1.14.6ter.; or
- 2) were processed to ensure the destruction of the NAI virus, and the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodity with any source of NAI virus.

**Rationale:** All egg-products (as indicated in Article 2.1.14.7ter and renamed 2.1.14.7) should be processed to ensure destruction of the NAI virus. Furthermore, for food safety reasons, egg-products should be heat treated at an appropriate temperature for a sufficient time, regardless of the NAI status of a country/zone or compartment. The text under the Articles 2.1.14.7 could be read to imply that importing countries should accept egg-products from an NAI free establishment, *regardless* of whether they have been heat treated

Article 2.1.14.8.

When importing from an NAI free country or zone/compartment, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for poultry semen

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor birds:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of NAI ~~on the day of~~ within 21 days prior to semen collection;

**Rationale: a 21 day period provides added assurance that the donor birds are healthy, were not exposed to NAI and showed no clinical signs of NAI.**

- 2) were kept in an NAI free country or compartment for the ~~28~~ 21 days prior to semen collection.

Article 2.1.14.9.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for the importation of semen of birds other than poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor birds:

- 1) were kept in isolation approved by the Veterinary Services ~~quarantine~~ for the ~~28~~ 21 days prior to semen collection;
- 2) showed no clinical sign of NAI during the isolation ~~quarantine~~ period;
- 3) were tested between 7 and 14 days prior to semen collection and shown to be free of NAI.

Article 2.1.14.10.

When importing from NAI free country or zone/compartment, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for fresh meat and meat products of poultry, and poultry viscera

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of meat comes from birds:

- 1) which have been kept in an NAI free country or zone/compartment since they were hatched or for the past ~~28~~ 21 days **3 months**;

**Rationale: it makes little sense that if a poultry commodity originates from a NAI free country/zone or compartment to also allow the option for that commodity to have been in a NAI free country/zone or compartment for only the past 21 days. If one allows the option that the commodity be in a country/zone or compartment for 21 days, then there would be little incentive for a country to eradicate, control or even monitor for Avian Influenza. If a commodity is coming from truly a NAI free country/zone or compartment, then that free country/zone or compartment must have been free of NAI for 6 months or at least 3 months if the country/zone or compartment had been previously free of NAI and then was subsequently re-eradicated.**

- 2) which have been slaughtered in an *approved abattoir* and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

Article 2.1.14.10bis.

When importing from a country or zone/compartiment free from HPNAI infection, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for fresh meat and meat products of poultry (~~other than turkey~~)

**Rationale:** Broiler and turkey meat should fall under the same import conditions. The report of the ad hoc expert group on Avian Influenza did NOT recommend separating out turkey meat and meat products from broiler meat and meat products. There is no scientific justification for having turkey meat be treated different from broiler meat.

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the entire consignment of meat or meat product comes from birds:

- 1) which have been kept in an establishment since they were hatched or for the past 21 days in which there has been no clinical sign of NAI in the past 21 days;
- 2) which have been slaughtered in an approved abattoir and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

Article 2.1.14.10ter.

When importing from a country or zone/compartiment not known to be free from HPNAI, Veterinary Administrations should require:

for fresh meat and meat products of poultry and poultry viscera (~~other than turkey~~)

**Rationale:** Broiler and turkey meat should fall under the same import conditions. The report of the ad hoc expert group on Avian Influenza did NOT recommend separating out turkey meat and meat products from broiler meat and meat products. There is no scientific justification for having turkey meat be treated different from broiler meat.

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the entire consignment of meat comes from birds:

- 1) which have been kept in a free establishment;
- 2) which have been tested to give a 95% probability of detecting a 5% prevalence of NAI infection not more than 7 days prior to slaughter using virus detection or virus isolation tests, ~~and~~ **OR** serological tests, with negative results in all cases;

**Rationale:** the product is already coming from a NAI free establishment; further assurance is then provided by testing the flock from which the meat is derived. Representative sampling at the 95%/5% level for testing provides additional assurance that the product has is free of NAI. Countries should have the option of either testing for virus or using serology. However both virus isolation tests AND serology is excessive and technically unnecessary.

- 3) which have been slaughtered in an approved abattoir which has not processed poultry infected with NAI since last cleaned and disinfected, and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

~~Article 2.1.14.11.~~

When importing from NAI free country or compartment, ~~Veterinary Administrations~~ should require:  
for poultry viscera

the presentation of an ~~international veterinary certificate~~ attesting that the entire consignment of meat comes from birds:

- 1) which have been kept in an NAI free country or compartment since they were hatched or for the past 28 days;
- 2) which have been slaughtered in an ~~approved abattoir~~ and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

~~Article 2.1.14.12.~~

When importing from a country or zone/compartment not known to be considered free from NAI, ~~Veterinary Administrations~~ should require:

for fresh meat and viscera of poultry turkey

the presentation of an ~~international veterinary certificate~~ attesting that the entire consignment of meat comes from birds:

- 1) ~~which have been kept in a free establishment for at least 28 days and regularly inspected by the official veterinarian;~~
- 2) ~~which have been tested to give a 95% probability of detecting a 5% prevalence of NAI infection not more than 7 days prior to slaughter using virus detection or virus isolation tests, and serological tests, with negative results in all cases;~~
- 3) ~~which have been slaughtered in an approved abattoir which has not processed poultry infected with NAI since last cleaned and disinfected, and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.~~

**Rationale:** The United States requests that this Article be deleted because there is no science to support treating turkey meat and products differently from broiler (meat-type chicken) meat and products.

~~Article 2.1.14.12 bis~~

When importing from a country or compartment free from clinical signs of NAI but not considered free from NAI infection, ~~Veterinary Administrations~~ should require:

for fresh meat of poultry

the presentation of an international veterinary certificate attesting that the entire consignment of meat comes from birds:

- 1) which have been kept in an country or compartment free from clinical signs of NAI but not considered free from NAI infection since they were hatched or for the past 28 days;
- 2) which have been slaughtered in an approved abattoir and have been subjected to ante mortem and post mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

Article 2.1.14.13.

When importing from country or zone/compartment not known to be considered free from NAI, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for processed meat products and processed viscera and egg products of poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the commodity is derived from fresh meat, meat products and/or viscera which meet the requirements of Articles 2.1.14.10., 2.1.14.10bis. or 2.1.14.10ter.; or
- 2) the commodity has been processed to ensure the destruction of the NAI virus, and the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodity with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.1.14.14.

When importing from NAI free country or zone/compartment, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for products of poultry origin intended for use in animal feeding, or for agricultural or industrial use

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these products come from birds which have been kept in an NAI free country or zone/compartment since they were hatched or for the past ~~28~~ 21 days. **3 months.**

**Rationale: it makes little sense that if a poultry commodity originates from a NAI free country/zone or compartment to also allow the option for that commodity to have been in a NAI free country/zone or compartment for only the past 21 days. If one allows the option that the commodity be in a country/zone or compartment for 21 days, then there would be little incentive for a country to eradicate, control or even monitor for Avian Influenza. If a commodity is coming from truly a NAI free country/zone or compartment, then that free country/zone or compartment must have been free of NAI for 6 months or at least 3 months if the country/zone or compartment had been previously free of NAI and then was subsequently re-eradicated.**

Article 2.1.14.15.

When importing from a country or zone/compartment not considered free from NAI, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for meal containing meat and/or feathers and/or bones (from poultry)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the commodity has been processed to ensure the destruction of the NAI virus;
- 2) the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodity with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.1.14.16.

When importing from a NAI free country or compartment, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:  
for feathers and down (from poultry)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of feathers or down comes from birds which have been kept in an NAI free country or compartment since they were hatched or for the past ~~21~~ **28 days-3 months**.

**Rationale: it makes little sense that if a poultry commodity originates from a NAI free country/zone or compartment to also allow the option for that commodity to have been in a NAI free country/zone or compartment for only the past 21 days. If one allows the option that the commodity be in a country/zone or compartment for 21 days, then there would be little incentive for a country to eradicate, control or even monitor for Avian Influenza. If a commodity is coming from truly a NAI free country/zone or compartment, then that free country/zone or compartment must have been free of NAI for 6 months or at least 3 months if the country/zone or compartment had been previously free of NAI and then was subsequently re-eradicated.**

Article 2.1.14.17.

When importing from a country or compartment not **considered known to be** free from NAI, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for feathers and down (from poultry)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the commodity has been processed to ensure the destruction of the NAI virus;
- 2) the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodity with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.1.14.18.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require for the importation of:

meat or other products from birds other than poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the commodity has been processed to ensure the destruction of the NAI virus;
- 2) the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the commodity with any source of NAI virus.

---

-----

— text deleted